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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

50X1-HUM
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COUNTRY: Yugoslavia

SUBJECT: Enforcement of Discipline in The Slovene Communist Party

DIST. 9 May 1947

50X1-HUM

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

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1. In mid-January 1947, the Central Committee of the KPS (Slovene Communist Party) issued a circular, signed by Miha Marinko and Stano Kovac, to all secretaries of local KPS organizations, in which the present situation of the Party was described.
2. The circular began by deploring the general discontent prevalent in Slovenia, which was attributed to underground reactionary propaganda, and instructed all KPS organizations to do all in their power to trace reactionary elements responsible for this subversive propaganda. Every Communist was exhorted to have the interest of the regime at heart and be prepared to report all subversive and reactionary elements to the appropriate authorities.
3. Particular attention was to be paid to all members of the OF (Liberation Front) since the OF included many camouflaged reactionaries within its ranks. These elements were to be sought out and neutralized. The Communist Party was gradually taking over complete control of the State, and the OF had already become a subsidiary organization of the KP. While the present situation demanded that the OF should continue to function, the Communist Party intended to establish complete control of this organization - a process which had, in fact, already begun. All local OF organizations were to obtain the authority of their local KPS cell before making any policy decisions or taking any executive action.
4. The circular then referred to the question of discipline within the Party itself and complained that some of the Party cells and recruited individuals who would never become suitable Communists. This had been particularly apparent in the Party members recruited during the last three months. The difference between a pre-war and post-war Communist was to be emphasized and understood. Only the former could be truly relied upon. Post-war Communists should not fill any appointments other than secretarial appointments. All the new recruits to the Party, under no circumstances be considered for appointment to any executive position or position of trust in the Party.
5. The circular then described the necessity for a general purge of the Party and complained that the Central Committee had recently had to deal with a great number of instances of indiscipline and even treachery within the ranks of the Party. A number of members, even old members, of the Party had had to be expelled. The Secretary of every Party Cell was responsible for the conduct of every Communist in his area and was to report all suspicious behavior

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- 2 -

immediately to the Central Committee.

6. The relative freedom of action of members which had up to this time existed was to cease. Now that the present regime had consolidated itself the freedom of action of all local OF and KPS organizations was to disappear. The present situation demanded the complete subordination of all local KP and OF leaders to the Central Government. The Party was now faced with a serious struggle against the forces of reaction, and must remain alive to all the dangers inherent in the present political and economic situation. All who were not prepared to carry out faithfully and scrupulously the orders of the Central Committee would be ruthlessly punished.

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note:

purges both inside and outside the Party. District People's Committees to which no KPS candidate had been elected have been dissolved in some cases, and in others some members have been arrested and replaced by KPS nominees. A check of State enterprises and of the Civil Service has resulted in hundreds of arrests, including those of many KPS members, which have for the most part been kept secret. During January the Central Committee of the KPS sentenced twelve KNOJ and OZNA officers and three civilian members of KPS to be shot, eighteen officers and seventeen civilians to penal servitude, expelled fifty members from the Party and degraded thirty senior members. These purges are presumed to be symptomatic of a marked decline in the general economic and political situation in Slovenia.

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